

propagating along any fibre of the array and impinging on said reflecting surfaces will be reflected out of its fibre by total internal reflection wherein the cross-sectional area of said reflecting surfaces increases as distance along said fibres increases in said preselected direction.

✓ ²⁰ 25. An illumination device comprising a plurality of optical fibres for propagating light in a preselected direction, said fibres being aligned to form an array, said array having a light emitting region wherein each of said fibres has a plurality of reflecting surfaces of optical quality extending therein such that a portion of light propagating along any fibre of the array and impinging on said reflecting surfaces will be reflected out of its fibre by total internal reflection wherein the cross-sectional area of said reflecting surfaces varies such that the amount of light reflected out of each fibre by each of said reflecting surfaces is substantially equal.

✓ ²¹ 26. An illumination device comprising a plurality of optical fibres for propagating light in a preselected direction, said fibres being aligned to form an array, said array having a light emitting region wherein each of said fibres has a plurality of reflecting surfaces of optical quality extending therein such that a portion of light propagating along any fibre of the array and impinging on said reflecting surfaces will be reflected out of its fibre by total internal reflection wherein the cross-sectional area of the said reflecting surfaces and/or the spacing between said reflecting surfaces varies such that the light emitted over said light emitting region is substantially uniform. --

Remarks

This is in response to the Examiner's Action dated September 15, 1994. In that Action the Examiner allowed Claims 1 through 18, rejected Claims 19 and 20, and objected to Claims 21 through 23 as dependent on a rejected base claim but otherwise allowable.